

A Fawcett Publication

AUGUST

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

10¢
NO. 54



THE
MONARCH
of the
AIRWAYS
COMBATS
JAGGA
the
SPACE RAIDER!

MAJOR MIDNIGHT

AND THE FLYING TOMB



ONCE THE FABLED QUETZALCOATL VISITED THE PEOPLE IN HIS STRANGE FLYING MACHINE! NOW ONLY A STONE MONUMENT REMAINED TO HONOR THE OCCASION; AND QUETZALCOATL HIMSELF WAS THE HALF-FORGOTTEN FIGURE IN A LEGEND ONLY PARTLY BELIEVED ...

BUT MAJOR MIDNIGHT DISCOVERED THAT EVEN THE MOST SKEPTICAL BELIEVE THE EVIDENCE OF THEIR OWN EYES!

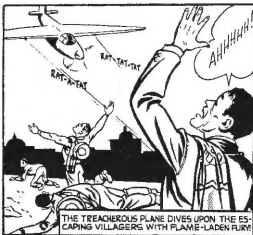
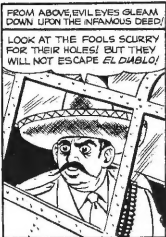
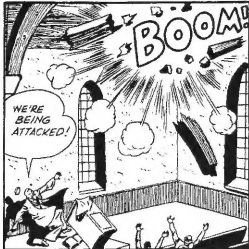
HERE IN THE VILLAGE CHURCH, RAS INCA, LAST OF THE PRIESTS, STILL TEACHES THE ANCIENT FAITH

THE GODS DO NOT BELIEVE IN CRUELTY! OUR BELOVED QUETZALCOATL TAUGHT THAT MEN SHOULD BE FREE..!

UNDER THE SHADOW OF QUETZALCOATL'S MONUMENT LIES A QUIET LITTLE VILLAGE ...



Art by CHARLES TOMSEY



OUR COUNTRY HAS SENT ME DOWN HERE TO CHECK UP ON THIS TORADO, CHUCK! I'M TO SEE A MAN KNOWN AS RAS INCA.

I HEARD OF HIM! HE'S A LEADER OF THE PARTY OPPOSING TORADO.

I GUESS YOU WANT TO FIND OUT FROM HIM IF THE STORIES ARE TRUE...

RIGHT! BUT OSTENSIBLY I'M JUST HERE TO EXPERIMENT WITH MY NEW CAMOUFLAGE NETTING! AND DON'T FORGET IT! I WIRED AHEAD TO LET THEM KNOW I'M COMING!



SUDDENLY!

JIM! A PLANE'S STRAFFING THAT VILLAGE!

WHY, THAT'S COLD BLOODED MURDER!



WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM! CHUCK... TAKE THE CONTROLS! I'M CHANGING MY COSTUME!

A SWIFT CHANGE, AND JIM ALBRIGHT BECOMES DYNAMIC MAJOR MIDNIGHT!

SIT TIGHT! I'M GOING TO GIVE HIM THE FRIGHT OF HIS LIFE!

CLOSER AND CLOSER MAJOR MIDNIGHT GUIDES HIS BEECHCRAFT

A THREE POINT LANDING!

EEEOWW! WE LANDED ON TOP OF HIM!

THE WEIGHT OF OUR PLANE IS FORCING HIM DOWN!

BUT WE'LL CRASH!

OUR FORWARD
SPEED GIVES US
MOMENTUM ---
FOR A TAKE-
OFF!

WHEW! ONLY YOU
COULD PULL A TRICK
LIKE THAT!



LATER, AFTER MAJOR MIDNIGHT
LANDS HIS BEECHCRAFT . . .

WHAT
HAPPENED
HERE? WHY
WERE YOU
ATTACKED?

BECAUSE THE
DICTATOR TORADO
FEARS US! HE
FEARS THE
TEACHINGS OF
QUETZALCOATL!

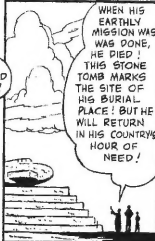


MANY CENTURIES AGO OUR
LAND WAS RULED BY A
TYRANT! THEN CAME THE
GOD QUETZALCOATL IN HIS
FLYING TOMB! HE
RALLIED THE PEOPLE
TO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM
-- AND DESTROY
THE TYRANT!

WHAT
HAPPENED
TO HIM?



WHEN HIS
EARTHLY
MISSION WAS
DONE,
HE DIED!
THIS STONE
TOMB MARKS
THE SITE OF
HIS BURIAL
PLACE! BUT HE
WILL RETURN
IN HIS COUNTRY'S
HOUR OF
NEED!



THEN THIS
STONE TOMB
WILL FLY
AGAIN-- AND
NO POWER OF
EVIL WILL BE
ABLE TO
WITHSTAND
IT!

THEY'RE
THE ONES
THAT
FORCED
ME DOWN!
**SEIZE
THEM!**



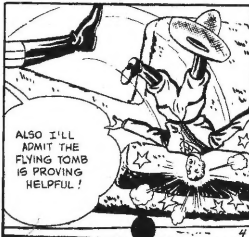
DIABLO AND HIS MEN
CHARGE THE UNWARY TRIO--

IT LOOKS AS THOUGH
THE POWER OF EVIL
HAS ALREADY
ARRIVED!



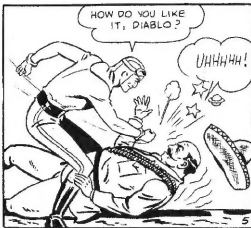
BUT MAJOR MIDNIGHT
AND CHUCK CUT
THEM SHORT!

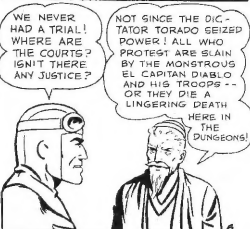
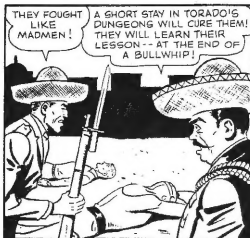
ALSO I'LL
ADMIT THE
FLYING TOMB
IS PROVING
HELPFUL!





AS CHUCK LIES HELPLESS, THE SEARING DOOM BEAM TORCH, SYMBOL OF MAJOR MIDNIGHT, BLAZES OUT!





ONLY QUIETZALCOATL
CAN SAVE US!
WHEN HE RETURNS,
MY PEOPLE WILL
REVOLT AND OVER-
THROW THE
TYRANT!

ALL TORADO
HAG TO FEAR
IS A MAN DEAD
FOR HUNDREDS
OF YEARS! IF I
EXPECT ANY
ACTION, I'LL
HAVE TO LIGHT
THE FUSE
MYSELF!

MEANWHILE...

TORADO, I HAVE
NEWS! WE RECEIVED
WORD THAT THE FAMOUS
INVENTOR MR. JAMES ALBRIGHT
IS COMING TO CONDUCT
SOME SORT OF
EXPERIMENTS!

SO? HE WILL BE AN
HONORED GUEST! I,
TORADO WILL SHOW
HIM HOW PEACEFUL
AND HAPPY MY
PEOPLE ARE...

CLEAN OUT THE
DUNGEONS! SHOOT
THE PRISONERS!
AND THIS TROUBLESOME
MAJOR MIDNIGHT!
WE WILL NOT
OFFEND MISTER
ALBRIGHT WITH
SUCH MISERABLE
ONES!

THAT
WOULD
NOT BE
POLITE,
EH?
HA-NA!

LATER, IN THE DUNGEON...

RAT-A-TAT-A-TAT!

THOSE
WERE
SHOTS!

YES,
TORADO
GROWS
IMPATIENT!

NO ONE,
LEAVES THE
DUNGEONS--
EXCEPT TO
DIE!

COME
WITH
ME!

I'VE JUST
THOUGHT OF
A NEW USE
FOR MY BLACKOUT
BOMB!

POR DIO!
I CANNOT
SEE!

MAJOR MIDNIGHT'S FAMED
BLACKOUT BOMB SURROUNDS
HIM WITH INKY DARKNESS!

YOU'LL SEE
STARS!

LOOK!
A PLANE!

IT'S RED! IT MUST
BELONG TO EL
CAPITAN DIABLO!

I'M SURE HE
WON'T MIND IF
WE BORROW IT!



THE FLEEING TRIO GO ALOFT IN
THE SCARLET AIRSHIP!

WE'RE
SAFE
NOW,
RAGINCA!

NO, SENOR!
TOREDO WILL
FIND US AGAIN!
THERE IS NO
PLACE WE
CAN HIDE!



WE'RE THROUGH HIDING!
IT'S TIME SOMEBODY
STARTED TO FIGHT BACK!
AND WE MIGHT AS WELL
BE THE ONES TO
START!



DURING THE FOLLOWING DAYS, MAJOR MIDNIGHT
SPREADS THE GOSPEL OF REVOLT IN EVERY
VILLAGE!

IT'S BETTER TO DIE AS
FREE MEN THAN LIVE AS
SLAVES! THROW OUT THE
TYRANT TOREDO!

HE'S RIGHT!
WHAT ARE WE
WAITING FOR?



MADRE
MIA!
LOOK!
A RED
PLANE!

EL CAPITAN
DIABLO! HE'S
COMING TO
KILL US
ALL!

IT COULDN'T
LAST FOR-
EVER! HE
FINALLY
CAUGHT
UP TO
ME!



TO THE
BEECHCRAFT!
WE'VE
GOT TO STOP
HIM!

IT'S A GOOD
THING HIS AIR
POWER IS
LIMITED!





HERE COMES DIABLO! WE'RE COLD MEAT!

WATCH THIS!

THE SULTAN OF THE SKYWAYS ZOOMS HIS BEECHCRAFT ABRUPTLY UPWARD!

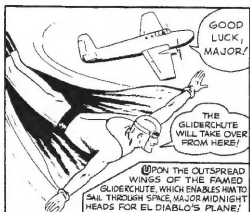


HE'S STILL WONDERING WHAT HAPPENED TO US!



BUT WE CAN'T EVADE HIM FOREVER!

I DON'T INTEND TO, CHUCK! I JUST WANTED TO GAIN ALTITUDE ...



GOOD LUCK, MAJOR!

THE GLIDERCHUTE WILL TAKE OVER FROM HERE!

UPON THE OUTSPREAD WINGS OF THE FAMED GLIDERCHUTE, WHICH ENABLES HIM TO SAIL THROUGH SPACE, MAJOR MIDNIGHT HEADS FOR EL DIABLO'S PLANE!

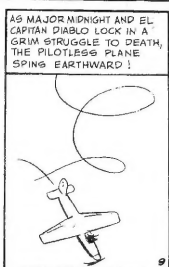


BANG! BANG!

WHAT THE!



THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE, DIABLO!



AS MAJOR MIDNIGHT AND EL CAPITAN DIABLO LOCK IN A GRIM STRUGGLE TO DEATH, THE PILOTLESS PLANE SPINS EARTHWARD!

THE PLANE CRASHES
INTO FLAMES...



MAJOR MIDNIGHT'S
DEAD! HE NEVER GOT
OUT OF THE PLANE!



HE KILLED EL CAPITAN
DIABLO TOO! BUT WHAT
A TERRIBLE PRICE TO PAY!
I - I'LL NEVER SEE MAJOR
MIDNIGHT AGAIN!



LATER WHEN THE NEWS REACHES THE DICTATOR
TORADO ...

WITH MAJOR MIDNIGHT DEAD,
THE REVOLT IS LEADERLESS!
NOW YOU WILL CRUSH IT
WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE!

YOUR
ORDERS
WILL BE
OBEYED TO
THE LETTER!



KILL, BURN AND PILLAGE!
WHEN JIM ALBRIGHT ARRIVES,
WE WILL TELL HIM WE
ARE PUTTING DOWN AN
UNJUST REBELLION!



MERCILESSLY, THE BLOOD-RED PLANES OF
TORADO'S SMALL AIR FORCE SMASH THE
ISOLATED SECTORS OF RESISTANCE.
BATTERED BY OVERWHELMING ODDS, THE
PEOPLE'S CAUSE SEEMS LOST...

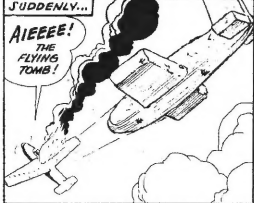


COURAGE MY CHILD!
WE WILL SHOW THEM
THAT WE KNOW
HOW TO MEET
DEATH BRAVELY!



SUDDENLY...

AIEEEE!
THE
FLYING
TOMB!



THE SIGHT OF THE MYSTERIOUS FLYING TOMB
ALSO DEMORALIZES TORADO'S PILLAGING ARMY!



**DON'T
BE
FOOLS!**

**QUETZALCOATL!
HE HAS
COME
TO LIFE!**

**FLEE! WE ARE MERE
MEN! WE CANNOT FIGHT
GODS!**



THE WRATH OF
QUETZALCOATL!
WILL DESTROY
US!

**COME BACK! TORADO
WILL HAVE YOU SHOT!
COWARDS!**



THERE IS NO
FLYING TOMB!
I SWEAR THAT...

AAAGHHH!

FOLLOW THE
FLYING TOMB
OF QUETZALCOATL!

TO THE
PALACE
OF TORADO!
THE
DICTATOR
WILL PAY FOR
HIS CRIMES!

MEAN-
WHILE,
IN THE
PAL-
ACE--

THEY'RE COMING
FOR ME! ... **GUARDS!**
WHERE ARE MY
GUARDS!



THE AROUSED POPLACE GATHER FORCES!



THEY'VE GONE!
DESERTED ME!
I MUST
ESCAPE!



THERE
HE
IS!
TORADO!

SO ENDS THE
TYRANNY! LONG
LIVE FREEDOM!

I WISH MAJOR
MIDNIGHT HAD LIVED
TO SEE THIS DAY!



OHhhh!

YOU
SHOT HIM!



LATER, AS A HEAVY-HEARTED CHUCK RETURNS
TO THE BEECHCRAFT

MAJOR
MIDNIGHT!

HELLO, CHUCK! GIVE ME
A HAND WITH THE CAMOU-
FLAGE NETTING!



BUT-
BUT I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
DEAD!

I GLIDERCHUTED
AWAY JUST BEFORE
THE PLANE CRASHED!
I WANTED EVERYONE
TO THINK I WAS
DEAD! AFTER THAT, I
WAITED FOR YOU
TO BRING BACK
THE BEECHCRAFT...

THEN
THE
FLYING
TOMB
REALLY
WAS...

THE BEECHCRAFT
IN DISGUISE! THE
RETRACTABLE WING
TIPS SHORTENED THE
WINGSPAN, AND THE
CAMOUFLAGE NETTING
DID THE REST! BUT
I DON'T THINK WE
SHOULD TELL RAS
INCA OR THE
OTHERS!

LET THEM THINK
QUETZALCOATL DID
RETURN, WHEN
THEY NEEDED HIM
MOST! THEN THE
FLYING TOMB WILL
BE FOR THEM A
SYMBOL OF
THEIR FIGHT
FOR LIBERTY!

A SYMBOL
--AND A
WARNING!
SO A
TYRANT
WILL
NEVER
AGAIN BE
ABLE TO
SEIZE POWER!
YOU'RE RIGHT,
MAJOR...!



THE END